

## THE BANNER travels over every road in Bossier Parish

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### RETROSPECTIVE

#### Fifty Years Ago.

From the Banner of March 9, 1867—Bellevue.

"Flour sold for \$6 a barrel in San Francisco on New Year's Day." [In spite of better milling facilities, it is double that price now and still a-soaring.]

"An exchange says marriage changes the current of a man's feelings. It also changes his currency." [Yes, and in this day of loose divorce laws, it changes both frequently.]

"The greater proportion of Americans now in Europe are in Italy." [Probably true then, but the greater proportions of Americans now in Europe are in the various embassies and consulates to which they are attached.]

The Banner of that date stated that the thermometer stood at 81 for two days, when it took a sudden drop to 25. Almost as sudden as some of the changes we have had of late. The Shreveport branch of the Weather Bureau reports that we have had this year the warmest February since the establishment of that office.

"Great stalwart, lusty negro men may be seen loafing around the streets of Houston, Texas, half-naked, and fed by the Freedman's Bureau, while if they would go into the country, they would get plenty of work to do." [The lure of the "bright lights" still causes them to flock to the cities, leaving a scarcity of labor on the farms.]

"We have no late news from Shreveport, New Orleans, Washington, or anywhere else, not having received a mail for a week. We don't exactly know whether we are living in a state, territory, a military despotism, or going it alone? But we will have to 'wait for the wagon.'" [Elsewhere in that issue of the Banner appeared a complaint against the mail service which Bellevue was getting at that time. Politics dominated the Postoffice Department, as well as the other branches of the National Government, and mail contracts were let to those having the greatest "pull," without regard to the efficiency of the service rendered. Our rural routes, with their civil service examinations for carriers, have done much to improve upon conditions.]

#### Thirty Years Ago.

From the Banner of March 10, 1887—Bellevue.

"Crowley has been chosen as the parish seat of the new parish of Acadia, by 188 majority."

The Banner of that issue recites the first numbering of business and private houses in the City of Shreveport.

"Twenty-one thousand dollars has been subscribed at Indianapolis to secure a league baseball club for that city." [The game has grown so in popularity that now this sum would hardly pay the yearly salaries of three star players.]

#### LOCAL.

"Married, at the residence of the bride's mother, in this parish, on the 2d instant, by the Rev. A. R. Banks, Mr. William E. Hall to Miss M. T. Caldwell." [Both Mr. and Mrs. Hall died at their home in this place, their deaths occurring within about twenty-four hours of each other. A son, Mr. Will Hall, resides in Oil City. One married daughter, Mrs. Blocker, lives in Texas.]

"Mr. J. J. Swindle, of Red Land, writes the Banner that the surveyors of the proposed Fordyce road left Lewisville, Ark., more than two weeks ago and were daily expected at Red Land. Also, that the surveyors for the Gould road had changed their survey, going back to Mrs. Cavett's field, and crossing the Washington and Arkansas road near the Cooper place, going through the Plain Dealing field on the Camden and

Arkansas road, thence through Mrs. J. P. Davis' farm, thence by George Paysinger's, from thence to the Arkansas line a little west of Mr. J. M. Lester's. This line passes west of Mr. F. M. Love's mill about one mile and Red Land about four miles." Mr. Swindle further writes: "We honestly think the shortest and most practicable route is through the Boggs Gap—called the Hughes route. From what I know and have learned about this route it seems that nature intended it for a railroad. This route would pass west of Red Land only two miles, and in going north would not cross a hill for a distance of about twenty miles."

#### Ten Years Ago.

From the Banner of March 7, 1907—Benton.

"The election held Tuesday for a member of the Police Jury from Ward Six to succeed Mr. W. M. Burch, resigned, resulted in the election of Mr. J. W. Elston of Haughton."

"Born to Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Lankford on the 1st, a girl." [Mr. and Mrs. Lankford removed from Benton some years ago. When last heard from they were located at Edna, this state.]

One paragraph from the Haughton correspondence read: "Mr. D. M. Houston, a prosperous Fee Fee farmer is selling large quantities of seed ribbon cane. This is one of the weapons with which to fight the boll weevil."

The Banner of that issue recites the marriage of Mr. W. D. Smith and Miss Jessie Faircloth, both of the Midway neighborhood. [They are still happily domiciled where they began housekeeping—in their cottage several miles east of Benton, on the Bellevue road.]

Extracts from the report of the Plain Dealing correspondent: "Mrs. Henderson Kelly is up again after a month's illness." "Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Will Lovelady on the 25th ult., a girl." "Mr. E. R. Mading is up and out again. He looks a little the worse for wear after his long sickness." "Miss Katie Doyle, our sweet blind singer, is visiting friends and relatives here. Miss Katie is always a pleasant and welcome visitor."

"At the conference held last Saturday in Shreveport between the Police Jury of this parish and a committee from the City Council of Shreveport it was decided to erect a new free traffic bridge across Red River at Shreveport. The site has not as yet been selected and authorized, but it is thought the bridge will be completed within the next eighteen months." [We now have the bridge, and a good one, but it is not free to anybody.]

#### A Farmer's Fine Defense.

From the Natchez (Miss.) Democrat.

Recently a merchant of Natchez happened to see a farmer receive a box at the depot and noticed that it was from a mail order house. He also noticed that the goods were right in his line and the same as he had carried for years. He immediately approached the farmer and said:

"I could have sold you the goods you have here for less money than the Chicago house and saved you the freight."

"Then why didn't you do so?" said the farmer. "I have taken the local paper for a year and have not seen a line about your selling these or any other goods. This mail order house sends advertising matter to me asking for my trade, and it gets it. If you have any bargains, why don't you put 'em in the paper so we can see what they are?"

The Assumption Pioneer very correctly says: "The man who is able to smile every time he reads about the high cost of living is the fellow who lives on the farm. He has already learned the lesson of diversification and he is able to live at home and defy the 'high cost.'"

## The Daredevil.

Continued from Page One.

the size of their brothers' if they didn't prefer to waddle and limp along with their feet scrouged. Go over to the shoe department and the clerk will fit you out with what you need in about two sizes larger than you wear. If they are not right you can tell just about what will be and exchange 'em by special messenger. I'll pack all this shipshape before you come back." With which direction I left the kind man and made my way to another of equal kindness.

"I have had upon my feet the shoes of my brother when in accidents while at hunting and fishing, and I think I can ascertain a good fitting." I made a falsification to the very polite young man who stood with attention and sympathy to wait upon me.

"We'll make a selection and then try one pair on," he advised me.

And as I gave to him a fine description of the clothing I had purchased he brought forth in accord many wonderful boots and shoes for the riding and a walking and also for the dance. I had never observed that the shoes of men were of such an ugliness, but when one was upon my foot in place of the shoe of much beauty which I discarded both I and the young man had a fine laugh.

"Mais, they are of a great comfort," I further remarked. "And they feel about as did those of my brother, who is of a small frame."

"Well, if they are not right, send 'em back and I'll change 'em," he answered, with great interest.

After the exchange of much money between us the young man went with me to the other kind old man of the white hair, and together they made places in the two bags for the shoes.

"Just \$700 all told, and the like of that outfit couldn't be bought in any other place of style in New York for less than a thousand, miss," remarked to me the elderly clerk as he closed and made fast with keys the two bags. "Shall I send 'em special?"

"I'll thank you that you call a taxi for me, monsieur," I answered, and as he had mentioned a great hotel in conversation earlier that very wicked daredevil that resides within me awoke at attention with the large ears of great mischief. I felt in my pocket that there was still much gold, and the man from whom I had purchased the ticket to the state of Harpeth had assured me that the train did not depart until the hour of 6 in the evening.

It then transpired that one hour from the time that the young Miss. Grew, who had registered at that large hotel with all of her luggage from the steamer while by her father was represented as still engaged with the customs, entered her room there emerged young Mr. Robert Caruthers, who, after paying his bill in his room, had a half boy send his bags on ahead of him to the railroad station while he sauntered into the tea room. I have never again met with the wonderful dresses I left in that hotel room. I hope the poor and beautiful domestic

of this section," he finally turned and said to the occupant of the number of seven with a very fine determination. "Certainly, conductor! Let me remove my hat and coat," came back the answer in a voice of very great sweetness as the conductor deposited me and my bags down in front of the most beautiful lady in all America, I am sure.

"Thank you for much graciousness, madam," I said, keeping those gray tweed knees straight out in front of me and very still to prevent trembling. "Not at all, sir. I brought only the lower half of this section. I am not at all nervous." And I could see her mouth, that was curled like the petals of an opening rose, tremble from a mischief as she regarded the stiff black silk back in the front of the car and the two huge females on our right, whose son and brother was to arrive in Philadelphia for their protection.

An equally gay mischief rose in my eyes and responded to that in hers as I responded also by word:

"For which also let us be in gratitude."

Many times in the months that followed have I thought of the lure of the laughing mischief in those eyes that were like beautiful blue flowers set in crystal and how they were to lead me on into the strange land of men in search of those forbidden fruits.

And from that moment on I did very much enjoy myself in conversation with that Madam Mischief, while we together did watch the retirement of all of the persons in the train. She had many funny remarks to make and made me merry with them, so that the hour of 11 o'clock had arrived before we had summoned the very black male chambermaid to turn our seats into beds. All others were in sleep that was a confusion of sound from everywhere, and we must stand in the aisle while the beds were being abstracted.

Continued in next week's Banner.



THIS FRUITY TURBAN.

Peaked hat come in this fluffy straw, known as Angora straw, and, as in this case, are trimmed with metal ribbon and fruit clusters of high luster.



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W. T. LOVELADY.

### Estrayed

From my place, near Hortman, on February 23d, a BAY HORSE, branded A C on left jaw; foretop cut off. Information leading to his recovery will be liberally rewarded.

J. H. MCGAHEE, Hortman, La.

### Surveying

My plantation duties now being about disposed of for the season, I can find ample time to look after surveying. Those who want land lines run, or surveying of any nature, are invited to address me at Plain Dealing.

4-11 RICHARD DREW, Parish Surveyor.

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